



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **third Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<https://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: October 14, 2025

Topic: “High Voltage Electronics and Tesla Coils”

Presenter: Alex Kowalewski, KR4ESQ

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: In-Person and Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM, [More info at RARS.org](https://www.rars.org)

RARS In Person Gathering

Date: October 28, 2025

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

In-person Gathering at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

Fin Gold
NC4FG
nc4fgfin@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY

Julie Royster
KT4JR
919-782-1624
KT4JR@arrl.net

TREASURER

Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are \$18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed full-time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are \$12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for \$9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

<https://www.rars.org>

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

Exciter President's Message for October 2025

Be Prepared

It has been a year since Tropical Storm Helene came through and devastated our mountain communities. Since then, many hams, especially new ones, have asked how we can better support the public in an emergency. We are working on a comprehensive club plan.

In the meantime, the short term answer is:

Get on the air! Why?

- Practice good radio techniques

- Test out your equipment

- Find out who you can talk to with the setup you have

- Improve your setup to be able to reach farther

Please take every chance to test your equipment by making calls, getting out, and enhancing your knowledge of emergency communications. Check out the #portable-operating-group [Discord](#) channel for existing opportunities or to plan with others.

Upcoming Events

The 2025 State Fair Ham Radio Exhibit



Every day at the NC State Fair (October 16-26), ham radio clubs are joining together to represent our hobby to the public.

Everything for the exhibit is ready to go! Just need a few finishing touches and we will be set! There is still room if you want to join us. Come on out and enjoy sharing with the community. We meet a lot of cool people, and we get to meet other hams from all over the State!

Find a day and time that works for your schedule and come on out for a fun day at the fair (or two or three!). Sign up [here for the Exhibit](#).

<https://www.rars.org>

JARSFest is in November

The 36th Annual JARSFest 2025 is set for November 16th at The American Legion Complex in Benson, NC. Setup starts at 6am and the doors open at 8am. Visit the [JARSFest website](#) to purchase your Indoor Tables, Out Door Tables, Admission Tickets, and additional Raffle Tickets. The Johnston Amateur Radio Society looks forward to seeing you there.

Volunteer to Help Run It

You know that JARS members help with RARSfest every year. So we need to help them too. Here is a link to the [JARSFest 2025 Volunteer Signup](#).

73,

Fin Gold, NC4FG

President

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society



August 12, 2025 RARS meeting

President Fin Gold, NC4FG, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded Zoom participants of a few notes about using Zoom. See the minutes for all the details during the meeting on [page 24](#).



Fin Gold, NC4FG and Chuck Till, K4RGN

Vice President Chuck Till, K4RGN ran the door prizes drawing



Everyone waiting for the meeting to start

August 12, 2025 RARS meeting, continued



Door prize winners, left to right.

Michael Johnson, KZ4LY; Tom Owens, KR4EPO; Josh Kurland, KR4BTW, Bruce Sherman, KI4PAC



Ten-Tec power supply, one of the four door prizes

Devin Hedge

KN4FVH

Presenting JT8CALL



August 12, 2025 RARS meeting, continued

WHO I AM – DEVIN B. HEDGE KN4FVH

- Army Signal Officer – first exposure to RTTY & Packet
- CEO of Calatüré, LLC – sustainability & energy tech
- Engineer, software dev, tinkerer
- Family + ADHD + Backpacking = Resilient Experimenter
- Looking for modes that enable real-time(ish) conversations (i.e. PSK31 without the headache)

JS8CALL – THE SOCIAL SIDE OF DIGITAL HAM RADIO

RARS PRESENTATION
SEPTEMBER 8, 2025
PRESENTER: DEVIN
HEDGE

WHY DIGITAL MODES MATTER

- Evolution: CW → SSB → Digital
- Weak-signal comms enable DX & EMCOMM
- FT8 & others = transactional or functional
- JS8Call = puts the 'social' back into digital radio

MODE COMPARISON TABLE — JS8CALL FEATURED

Mode	Bands	Strengths	Typical Use
FT8	HF	Weak-signal efficiency, global DX	Contesting, logging contacts
PSK31	HF	Conversational keyboard chat	Ragchew, casual QSOs
RTTY	HF	Legacy contesting mode	Radiosport, tradition
Packet/TARPN	VHF/UHF	Local networking, node routing	Bulletin boards, local nets
Winlink	HF/VHF	Email over radio, robust	EMCOMM, off-grid messaging
APRS	VHF/UHF	Position + weather + short text	SAR, public service events
Meshastic	LoRa/ISM*	Mesh networking, low-cost devices	Hiking, prepper, maker culture
JS8Call ★ (Featured)	HF	Conversational + resilient	Social QSOs, group nets, EMCOMM

* LoRa devices default to ISM bands but can be tuned for ham allocations with an amateur license

SPOTLIGHT ON FT8

- POPULAR: weak-signal, global reach, contesting
- Strengths: EFFICIENT, 15s cycles, DX with 5W
- Limitations: structured, NOT CONVERSATIONAL
- FT8 = efficient, but NOT SOCIAL → Enter JS8Call

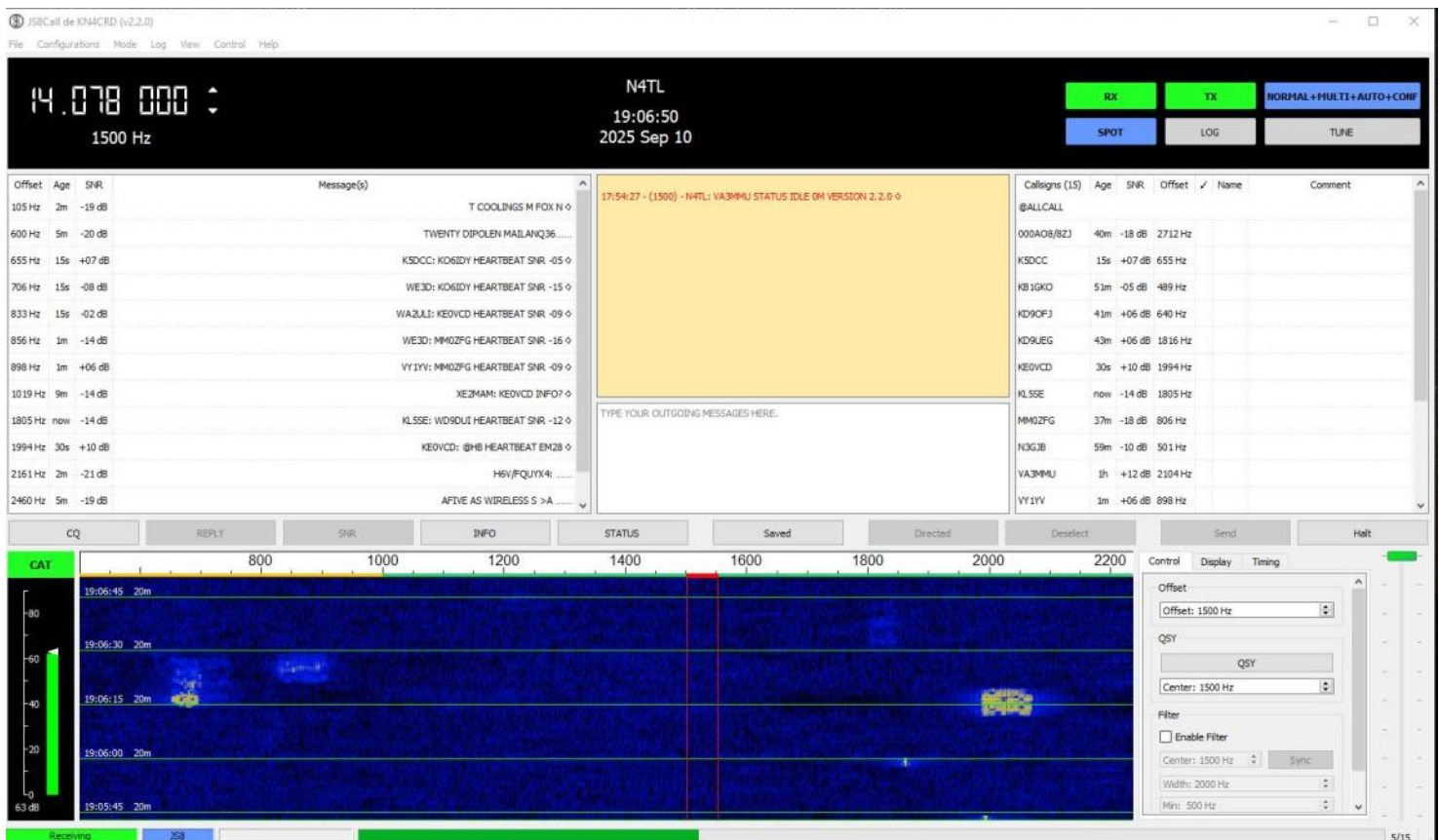
Pictures of some of Devin's slides

August 12, 2025 RARS meeting, continued

Official Site of [JS8Call | The official site for JS8Call](#) . There is a good YouTube video of more details of setting up JS8CALL here —> [Guide to Getting Started with JS8 or JS8Call Quick Start](#)

I put it on my Windows 10 computer and the water fall was way too big. After I moved it down the windows matched the video.

On FT8 you get 15 seconds to transmit your info. On JS8CALL your messages can go longer. You need to put BTU at the end of long messages (back to you). With JS8CALL you can double with the other station. To change bands click on the frequency at the top left. A window will open up. Click on the one you want.
73 Tom, N4TL



JS8Call Screen Capture

Here is a good video about setting up and using FT8

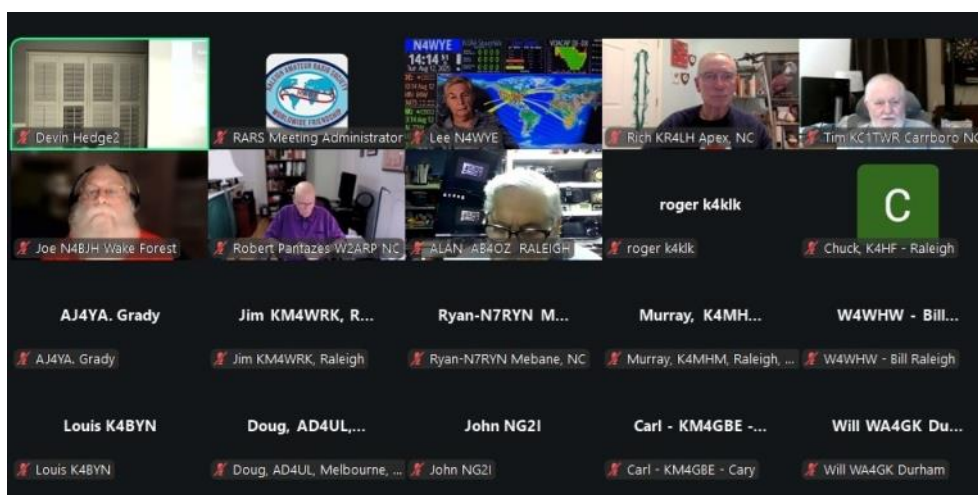
[Get Started with FT8 - An Introduction for Beginners | WSJT-X Ham Radio](#)

August 12, 2025 RARS meeting, continued

Full Name	Call Sign	Full Name	Call Sign
Barry Wheeler	K9IUT	Josh Kurland	KR4BTW
Bob Chapman	NC1X	Judah	KR4CXF
Bob Richards	W4GIA	Julie Royster	KT4JR
Bruce Sherman	KI4PAC	Ken Latchum	AD4GX
Charles Swindell	WB4DCM	Lawrence Riley	KR4BGL
Christine North	KR4ANI	Mahesh B	NOCALL
Chuck North	WJ4A	Michael Johnson	KZ4LY
Chuck Till	K4RGN	Michael North	KK4EIB
Clayton McDaniels	KR4GMA	Mike Joondeph	N1JDW
Dale Jones	WA4JCK	Ralph Selmont	KQ4RZI
Debbie Garland	KR4BTK	Randy Chellis	KR4BUR
Dennis Mason	WZ0Q	Richard LaBarbera	KR4RL
Denny Oestreich	KO4IBL	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH	Tadd Torborg	KA2DEW
Fin Gold	NC4FG	Tim Thurber	WX4TIM
Hans Enders	KQ4UXZ	Tom Lewis	N4TL
Jay Gilleece	KQ4PSK	Tom Owens	KR4EPO
Joe Spratt	KR4DIN	Tony O'Connor	K1OC
John Hollowell	K4JAH	Wilbur Goss	WD4RDT

38 People attended in person

Zoom attendees



38 People attended in person plus 19 on Zoom, 57 total



Hamfest Hotline

We are at the halfway point in our RARSfest calendar. Depending on how you look at it, RARSfest, The Raleigh Hamfest, was either 6 months ago, or coming back in 6 months!

Since April 2025, I've been on the road promoting our event to all who would listen. May found us at the Dayton Hamvention, where the organizers were kind to comp us a booth!

Next up was the Huntsville Hamfest in August. I love this event because it's indoors and spans 100,000 sq ft, just like us. It really helps to see how we stack up with our setup and procedures. I think I've got a couple of new dealers coming to us in 2026, based on discussions I had there.

Next up will be The Stone Mountain Hamfest, which is a suburb of Atlanta. This is a solid event, and again, they were nice enough to comp us a booth, as we will be doing the same for them come Spring.

Locally, we've got [JARSfest](#), Sunday, November 16th, down in Benson. It's not too far, and they run a nice hamfest. Not only should you attend, but please consider volunteering to help them, as RARSfest is heavily dependent on their assistance.

I *won't* be attending the [Winson Salem Hamfest](#). If you are, please take some promotional postcards to distribute; I'll bring them to the General Meeting on the 14th.

73, Nancy Torborg KB2TNR, Hamfest Chair.

RARS MONTHLY SUPPER , IHOP RESTAURANT SEPTEMBER 16, 2025



Names clockwise around the table,

Andrea Buttine; Chris Buttine, KC1GN; Chuck Till, K4RGN; Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX;
Ralph Selmont, NC4RS; Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Ken Latchum, AD4GX;
Bob Chew, K4YXM; Richard Dennis, KE4COD; Robert McCoy. Tom, N4TL taking the picture
Congratulations to Ralph Selmont for upgrading to Extra.

NEW CALL SIGN?

If you get a new call sign, tell Greg Seamster, KE4PAX.

He will update the Membership Roster.

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, September 23, 2025

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at [2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh](#)

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.



Miscellaneous pictures taken at the gathering copied from discord

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, September 23, continued

Full Name	Call Sign	Full Name	Call Sign
Barry Wheeler	K9IUT	Julie Royster	KT4JTR
Billy Janke	KE4VNC	Kim Johnson	KZ4UN
Bob Calhoun	KR4GWL	Lawrence Reilly	KR4BGL
Brad Bazemore	KK4PWJ	Michael Johnson	KZ4LY
Brantley West	K4CBW	Michael North	KK4EIB
Bruce Sherman	KI4PAC	Mike Joondeph	N1JDW
Chuck North	WJ4A	Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR
Dennis Keith	NC4DK	Nick Maier	NOCALL
Dennis Mason	WZ0Q	Ralph Selmont	NC4RS
Denny Oestreich	KO4IBL	Rob Bowser	KO4HUI
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH	Robert McCoy	NOCALL
Doug Wall	N3LTV	Stephen Haffly	NY4NC
Fin Gold	NC4FG	Tadd Torborg	KA2DEW
Jeremy Lindsley	K2HJX	Tom Lewis	N4TL
Joe Spratt	KR4DIN	Tony O'Connor	K1OC
John Bowser	NOCALL	Will Jabber	WY5L
John Honeycutt	N8ZU		

33 People attended the September Gathering

Ham Public Service North Carolina

For information on Ham Public Service and how you can help out, go to this website.

Home [HPSNC.ORG](https://www.hpsnc.org) - Ham Public Service North Carolina

RARS Fall 2025 Technician Class

By Denny Oestreich KO4IBL

10-7-2025

RARS organized and held a Technician Training Class for prospective new HAMs on three Saturdays, September 6, 13, and 20. The Classes were held at the Red Cross facility in East Raleigh. The class curriculum was based on the nine chapters of the ARRL HAM Radio Technician Manual. Twelve students including two Red Cross volunteers completed the classes and are preparing to take their FCC tests over the next few weeks. We wish them good luck on their tests and enjoyment pursuing their future HAM activities.

A special thank you to the RARS instructors who presented the ARRL slides and added their HAM experiences to the presentations.

Denny Oestreich KO4IBL – Amateur Radio and Propagation, Antennas and Feed Lines.

Kim Johnson KZ4UN - Radio and Signal Fundamentals.

Tom Lewis N4TL - Electricity, Components and Circuits and Communicating with other HAMs.

Richard Kroeger N1FUA - Amateur Radio Equipment.

Tony O'Connor K1OC - Licensing Regulations and Operating Regulations

Chuck Till – K4RGN - Safety



Kim Johnson KZ4UN - going over Radio and Signal Fundamentals.

Deepest Sympathies



A transfer of \$50 has been made to the RARS / Dick Bitner Youth Education fund in memory of Mary Holtschneider KG4OQA (February 28, 1963 – September 1, 2025)

Mary Holtschneider Obituary

[Mary Edel "Hofmann" Holtschneider Obituary \(2025\) - Rochester, NY - DiPonzio Funeral Home, Inc.](#)

RARS Member Birthdays

Mike	KJ4YDX	10/
Scott	AB4SL	10/1
Chris	W4CEC	10/1
Kathryn	KM4RNE	10/1
Lawrence	KR4BGL	10/1
Pete	K4PHS	10/2
Jerry	W2GLA	10/2
Dave	K4SAN	10/2
Clayton	KR4GMA	10/3
Rod	AB4RG	10/5
Jim	N0FPP	10/5
Dale	W4AUV	10/5
Corky	W2AAT	10/6
Katie	KQ4TIF	10/8
Todd	AG4AY	10/8
Andrew	KJ4WRC	10/9
Rick	KA3PSK	10/9
Robert	AD6I	10/9
Gale	K4GGB	10/10
Frank	KY4W	10/11
David	WA4DAG	10/14
David	KN1DKH	10/15
Donnie	KO4FWI	10/16
Joe	KO4NWW	10/17
Rob	KZ4LB	10/17
Don	AD4XR	10/18
John	K5MO	10/21
Ed	KI4WIB	10/21
Gary	K4AAQ	10/22
John	KQ4FSP	10/23
Jason Sullivan		10/24
Lou	W2ROW	10/27
Chuck	K4RGN	10/27

RARS Member Birthdays

Craig	KQ4GON	10/28
Matthew	KN4VTT	10/28
Stephen	NY4NC	10/28
Wilson	W4BOH	10/29
Diane	KC3HNG	10/29
Jim	N4CVT	10/31

RARS New Members

John Edgerton	KQ4RLM
---------------	--------

September 2025

RARS Net Report

30 2m nets: 387 checkins,
751 minutes duration

5 6m nets: 56 checkins,
101 minutes duration

Julie Royster, KT4JR,
RARS net manager

RARS Membership Status / Profile Update

Note: If your RARS membership is current, you will be able to use the following link to verify your expiration date and update your membership profile.

<https://www.rars.org/userprofile.php>.

The following link can be used if you need to renew your membership.

http://www.rars.org/membership_renewal.php.

The RARS membership year ended June 30, 2025. Is your membership current?

Membership Year - The RARS membership year is July 1 to June 30.

Current yearly membership fees:

Regular Member	\$18 per year
Reduced Senior or Full-Time Student Member	\$12 per year
Associate (non-licensed) Member	\$ 9 per year
Family Member	\$ 5 per year

Note: You have the option to renew your membership for multiple years.

Membership Dues can be paid on-line via PayPal to "raleigh_ars@earthlink.net", or mailed to the RARS Treasurer. Note: A PayPal account is not needed to make a Credit Card payment via PayPal.

Greg Seamster
RARS Treasurer
1405 Leanne Court
Raleigh, NC 27606

Note: RARS is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Donations as well as membership dues are tax deductible.

Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Investigation

Greetings to all RARS members and friends.

In my 70 years of ham radio activity, I can truthfully say that I have been fortunate not to have had but two incidents of RFI (radio frequency interference) from outside sources.

The first was minor and rapidly solved but the latest incident has been a threat to my sanity.

S9 noise levels on 3.5 MHz through 24.9 MHz, non-stop day and night, rain or shine, jamming all but the strongest signals. A call to Duke Energy (assuming it was a power line noise) was placed on July 29th, 2025. A neighbor of mind, Jim AJ4M was experiencing the same problem, and he subsequently placed a call to Duke Energy.

I will ask Tom N4TL to attach the entire summary of their investigation for future reference, but I did want to point out that the entire team from Duke Energy went way beyond what I expected. Their team attacked the problem head on and through their skills, diligent and persistent efforts were able to effectively define and skillfully find the nasty truth about what was killing my reception. Their team was lead by Matt Davey (Lead Engineer of the Power Quality division) and was joined by Kim Craven (PE from Charlotte in charge of the RFI Division). With two experts from Duke Energy I felt pretty good about getting my noise fixed. Well...August 8th, August 27th, September 10th, September 17th, the problem was still there. But on September 18th, the mystery was solved by Matt and Kim, and on September 29th the problem was fixed. The real problem was not a power line noise but belonged to a business near my house. Duke Energy was not obligated to provide any additional assistance since it was not their power line noise, BUT they did. They contacted the business owner and explained the RFI issue. Reluctantly the business owner hired an electrician and met with the Duke Energy team and BINGO. Bad wiring found in junction box. Electrician cleaned, repaired connections and interference was gone.

Now my radio is so quiet that I occasionally check antenna connections making sure all is well.

Again, many thanks to Duke Energy, Matt Davey, and Kim Craven for their diligent work and service for the amateur radio community.

Louis Alexander K4BYN

This link will take you to the [Duke Energy RFI report](#).

RARS Classifieds

Copied from <https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php>

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.
Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

2 HTs for sale

Posted September 30th, 2025 by: [WZ0Q](#)

Contact: wz0q@outlook.com

1) Baofeng UV s9plus dualband ht 144mhz-440mhz
comes with drop n charger, extended range antenna
copy of manual
asking \$15.00

2) Radioddity GC5 dualband ht
comes with original box, manual, drop n charger, extended range antenna
and all hardware that came with it.
asking \$15.00
email me or call 919-413-5998
Dennis
wz0q

Icom 7600 FS

Posted September 23rd, 2025 by: [N4YDU](#)

Contact: n4ydu@yahoo.com

Good condition Icom 7600 with power cord and manual. Sorry, no hand mic. Asking \$850.

Amp Supply LK 550NT FS

Posted September 23rd, 2025 by: [N4YDU](#)

Contact: n4ydu@yahoo.com

Amp Supply LK 550NT (no tune) amp for sale. This amplifier has three 3-500Z tubes and offers wide-range tuning on each band. That said, power output can vary significantly depending on where in the band you are operating. The amp is 80s vintage but still very reliable. Power output ranges from 800-1500W depending on band and drive power.

Asking \$750

RARS Classifieds continued

Misc Ham Radio Gear - Updated

Posted September 20th, 2025 by: K4HF

Contact: [K4HF](mailto:k4hf953@yahoo.com)

k4hf953@yahoo.com

1. Samlex SEC-1235M Power Supply. Metered, 13.8VDC, 30A Tested. \$70
2. Tekpower TP30SWI Power Supply. Metered, 13.8VDC. 30A Tested \$70
3. Hammarlund HQ-180 Communications/GC Receiver, tested, needs an external speaker, manual, very good condx. asking \$150
4. Heathkit HW-8 80 thru 15 Mtr CW Transceiver, 3.5 Wts, tested, with a J-38 St key, manual and non working code oscillator. asking \$85
5. ICOM IC-7600 160 - 6 Mtr 100 Watt Transceiver, PS, mike, manual Very Good Condx. \$895

Contact me by e mail. Thanks - Chuck

FS: Kenwood TS-520S

Posted September 15th, 2025 by: [W4BOH](mailto:infomet@embarqmail.com)

Contact: infomet@embarqmail.com

YES, another example of the classic hybrid transceiver!

Running when parked, several years ago, so likely good, but present condition unknown.

Clearance price, \$125.

In Hillsborough. Loading help available.

Pickup in Morrisville possible.

Boatanchors for Sale

Posted September 14th, 2025 by: [W4BOH](mailto:infomet@embarqmail.com)

Contact: infomet@embarqmail.com

A friend is starting to thin his herd and the first tranche of rare and desirable equipment follows.

All are in good physical condition and most work.

A couple need minor work and none are basket cases, or even parts rigs.

Prices are not listed because I haven't had time to do the market research to set them.

Email me what you would like to have and I'll set a price.

RARS Classifieds continued

You're welcome to make offers, of course, but don't bother with any lowballs.
All are in Hillsborough, in an area near several pretty good restaurants, so a visit would be worthwhile!
Drop me an email to discuss, Wilson

B&W 5100 Needs new relay (on hand) installed
SX-28 and hard to find SPEAKER
RME-45 and speaker
NC-300
Globe Scout Painted new color
TS-520S
Ten Tec antenna tuner
Viking 6&2, VFO, and HB power supply
Harvey Wells TBS-50 Modified with 2E26 final
Harvey Wells TBS-50 Modified for CW only
TenTec Century 21, great 35W CW rig
Drake twins and transceivers

Foxes Still for Sale

Posted September 14th, 2025 by: [W4BOH](#)
Contact: infomet@embarqmail.com

These are radio foxes, in kit form, just what you need to run a foxhunt for your kids and friends.
They run a few mW, on 146 MHz and will run a couple days on a 9V battery.
They use leaded components on a nice PC board, for easy assembly and they are small enough to be packaged in a pill bottle.
You can use your whip or rubber duckie antenna.
Kits are on hand in Hillsborough, for \$20, or can be mailed to you for \$25.
PS: They don't bite.

Receiver/Tower for Sale

Posted September 9th, 2025 by: [NG2I](#)
Contact: jmillemaci@gmail.com

I have a 32 foot freestanding tower (four 8 ft sections). When I used it last I figured out how to hinge it for those who don't climb. Could use some sanding and a coat of paint. I can send a picture if interested. Asking \$125. Also have a Collins 51J3 receiver. Works great except for S-meter. Asking \$100. Can send picture as well.

John
NG2I

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

September 2, 2025

7:00 PM on Zoom

1. Call to Order – Fin Gold NC4FG President

Gold called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Those present were Fin Gold NC4FG, Chuck Till K4RGN, Julie Royster KT4JR, John Hollowell K4JAH, John Honeycutt N8ZU, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Richard Hall KR4LH, Tadd Torborg KA2DEW, Ken Latchum AD4GX, Nancy Torborg KB2TNR, Tom Lewis N4TL, Richard Kroeger N1FUA, and Tony O'Connor K1OC. There were no visitors.

2. President Gold asked Secretary Julie Royster for a quorum call and she confirmed that a quorum was achieved. He then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August BOD meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

Nominating Committee Update - Chuck Till K4RGN

The nominating committee (Chuck Till, Nancy Torborg, and John Honeycutt) has 2 recommendations. First, they recommend a board of 8 people: the four officers, the past president, and three at large members. The other committee coordinators who are currently board members would be appointed by the president and confirmed by the board. Chuck explained that while the board size reduction proposal is included in the committee's recommendations, it would require membership approval and likely won't be addressed until next year, though it would maintain committee chairs as non-voting advisors. Second, the nominating committee recommends rethinking the current role of youth coordinator and not filling that position at present. Instead it is recommended that a committee be formed to evaluate and redesign the youth program. With respect to current nominations, the nominating committee delivered their report to the board for consideration. Nominees are still needed for the positions of Secretary, Education Director, Food Service Coordinator, and NC QSO Party chair.

Storage update - Fin Gold NC4FG reported that RARS will use the storage room at the Red Cross building for things that are stored long-term or that need to be used at the Red Cross. If items are used more frequently then they can be kept at members' homes. Currently Fin Gold, Tony O'Connor, and Chuck Till are able to access the Red Cross building.

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

4. New Business

Remote station possibility - Fin Gold NC4FG Someone has requested that RARS develop and maintain a remote-access station for use by members. Numerous details would need to be worked out to consider this possibility, and it may not be feasible.

5. Officer's Reports

- a. Vice-President's Report – Chuck Till K4RGN The September, October, and November programs are planned, and Chuck is recruiting for December and later meetings.
- b. Secretary's Report – Julie Royster KT4JR The minutes are up to date.
- c. Treasurer's Report – Greg Seamster KE4PAX RARS currently has 600 members on roster but 130 have not renewed yet. There are 583 voting members.

6. Committee Reports:

- a. Net Manager Julie Royster, KT4JR
Nets are ongoing.
- b. Education Director Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL
There are 22 people signed up for the license class, and 6 are Red Cross people. The new location for the class is 100 North Peartree Lane.
- c. FM Repeater Chair John Hollowell, K4JAH
Fin and John have looked at a potential repeater site at North Hills on The Eastern building which is 36 stories tall. There is a good spot for an antenna and equipment but no air conditioning in room for equipment, so adding AC might be an extra cost. The purpose is to move the digital repeater from RTP and also the 64 repeater from the fairgrounds. We need to get off towers over time because climbing towers is too hard and too expensive.
- d. Club License Trustees Tom Lewis, N4TL
No change.
- e. Exciter Editor Tom Lewis, N4TL We have made a change in how the Exciter is presented on the website. The notice at the top of the homepage automatically updates when the current issue of the EXciter is uploaded. Currently a draft is posted until it is official.
- f. RARSfest Chair Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR
Nancy went to Huntsville hamfest. There is a good potential of having 8 new dealers come to RARSfest. Bird might come back. Bird did not go to Shelby. Next event is Stone Mountain in GA.

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

- g. Food Service Chair Richard Kroeger, N1FUA
Work obligations have prevented him from attending the last few meetings. He will not be able to continue in this role due to workload.
- h. ARRL Liaison Chuck Littlewood, K4HF
Nothing from ARRL.
- i. RARS VE Coordinators Richard Hall, KR4LH
The next test session will be in October.
- j. RARS Webmaster Tony O'Connor, K1OC
When our web hosting service provider recently upgraded their version of Linux, it exposed errors in our own code. Tony has fixed the old errors that he has found.
- k. At Large Director Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW
At the next gathering we will put an antenna into trees and work on 40 meters.
- l. At Large Director Ken Latchum, AD4GX
Ken thanked the Board for asking him to serve the past 3 years.

7. Other reports or questions

- 1) Tom Lewis needs pictures from the Gathering if anyone has any.
- 2) Greg Seamster has learned that additional insurance coverage for vehicles would cost about \$100 per year, and we could consider adding that at the next renewal.

8. President Gold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Royster, KT4JR, RARS Secretary

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes

September 9, 2025, 7:30 PM

- 1) President Fin Gold NC4FG called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded Zoom participants of a few notes about using Zoom. He thanked attendees for coming out tonight. He related that RARS member Mary Holtschneider KG4OQA recently passed away. To honor Mary for her many diverse interests and activities, Fin has started a new thread in Discord where members can describe their other interests apart from ham radio. Fin also related that at the current licensing class nearly all of the 14 students are interested in emergency communications, and RARS is actively pursuing a greater emphasis on hams assisting in emergencies.
- 2) President Gold asked if any new members, visitors, or newly upgraded licensees were present. One new member was present: Clayton McDaniels KR4GMA
Ralph Selmont has upgraded to extra, and his new callsign is NC4RS.
- 3) Vice President's Report or announcements – Chuck Till, K4RGN
Chuck stated that next month's program will focus on high voltage electronics with a demonstration. Chuck reported that the nominating committee is still seeking members who would be nominated for the positions of education director, food service coordinator, Field Day coordinator, and club secretary.
- 4) Secretary's Report or announcements – Julie Royster, KT4JR
The minutes are up to date.
- 5) Treasurer's Report -- Greg Seamster KE4PAX
President Gold announced that RARS membership has reached 600, though this will drop in October if some current members do not renew by October 15.
- 6) Specific Announcements or Reports from Directors
 - f) Announcements from Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ
The free AB4OZ hamfest will be September 13. The Lexington hamfest will be September 27. The Maysville hamfest will be Sunday October 12.
 - g) President Gold stated that the next Board Meeting will be held at 7 PM on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 via Zoom, and visitors may get the link from Fin.

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes continued

- 7) President Gold asked Secretary Julie Royster KT4JR for a Quorum Call. Counting in-person plus Zoom attendees, there was a quorum present. President Gold asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.
- 8) Door Prize Drawing – Chuck Till K4RGN
Tickets were drawn for door prizes, and the winners were:
Bruce Sherman KI4PAC
Josh Kurland KR4BTW
Tom Owens Jr. KR4EPO
Michael Johnson KZ4LY
- 9) Program:
Chuck Till, K4RGN, introduced tonight's speaker, RARS member Devin Hedge KN4FVH, who gave an excellent program on digital modes, focusing on conversational modes like JS8Call, which he described as an interactive counterpart to FT8.
- 10) Adjournment: President Gold asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Chuck Till, seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Royster, KT4JR, RARS Secretary